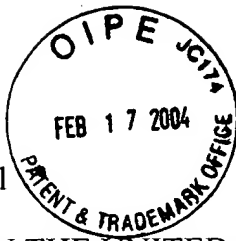


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thomas BENTHIEN et al. **Confirmation No. 9481**
Group Art Unit: 1775
Appl. No. : 9/937,464
Examiner: La Villa, Michael E.
Filed : March 24, 2002
For : SILANE-BASED COATING MASS WITH A CATALYTIC,
OXIDATIVE, AND DEODORIZING EFFECT

AMENDMENT AND ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RECEIVED

FEB 25 2004

Sir:

This is in response to the requirement for restriction under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372 mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 14, 2003 which set a one-month shortened statutory period to expire on December 14, 2003. Applicants hereby request an extension of time for two months and are concurrently filing a formal Request for Extension of Time, together with all requisite fees therefor. If for any reason the Request for Extension of Time is not associated with the file, or the fee submitted herewith is deemed insufficient for any reason, the present submission should be interpreted to include the requisite Request for Extension of Time, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary to preserve the pendency of this application to Deposit Account

No. 19-0089.

02/20/2004 TBESHAH1 00000081 09937464

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Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.